

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Thursday, January 23, 2003

Contact: Bill Nowling

(517) 373-5899

bnowling@senate.michigan.gov

## Sikkema Names Members of Bottle Bill Task Force

LANSING – Senate Majority Leader Ken Sikkema R-Wyoming, today announced the members of the Michigan Beverage Container and Recycling Task Force. The task force will review Michigan's bottle deposit law and issue recommendations on proposed changes to the Legislature in September.

"I am pleased to appoint six highly qualified and diverse senators to serve on the Michigan Beverage Container and Recycling Task Force," Sikkema said. "Each senator will bring a new perspective to the discussions, as representatives of different communities across the state. I look forward to hearing their recommendations on this important issue."

The members of the Michigan Beverage Container and Recycling Task Force are Senator Cameron Brown, R-Sturgis, Chairman; Senator Patty Birkholz, R-Saugatuck; Senator Mike Bishop, R-Rochester; Senator Alan Cropsey, R-DeWitt; Senator Jud Gilbert, R-Algonac; and, Senator Michelle McManus, R- Lake Leelanau.

Michigan has not reviewed or updated the bottle deposit law since 1976. The task force will conduct hearings to determine if the voter-initiated law needs to be improved, expanded or addressed with new recycling programs.

The task force will announce a schedule of hearings in the coming weeks.